

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A nail clipping assembly including a pair of nail clippers for clipping a ~~finger or~~ fingernail and toe nail, said nail clippers having an upper arm and a lower arm, each arm having a blade end and a joined end and said upper and lower arms being joined at their joined ends and said upper arm having an upper blade at its blade end and said lower arm having a lower blade at its blade end, said upper and lower blades being aligned to meet to form a cutting line and an operating lever held to said pair of nail clippers so that the depression of said operating lever causes said upper blade to move downwardly and meet said lower blade to create a cutting action wherein the improvement comprises:

a light source held near said upper and lower blades and positioned below said lower blade, said light source emitting a beam of light, so that when a finger is moved so that an extending nail portion at a distal end of the finger moves between said upper blade and said lower blade, said ~~light source~~ beam of light will illuminate at least that portion of the interior of said finger under its nail so that an intersection between the extending portion of the nail and the finger is clearly visible; and

means for energizing said light source whereby a fingernail may be safely clipped as a result of the illumination of the intersection between the nail and the finger.

2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 1 2 wherein said pair of nail
2 clippers is held in a holder, said holder having a recess for holding said pair of nail
3 clippers so that the upper and lower blades thereof may be moved adjacent the end of a
4 subject's finger end and over a subject's extending nail and said holder having a hand
5 graspable handle and a cutting end and said holder further supporting said light source at
6 its cutting end and said holder having a receptacle for holding said means for energizing
7 said ~~at least one~~ light source and said light source being positioned within said receptacle
8 in sufficient proximity to the subject's finger to illuminate the interior of the finger at an
9 area where the subject's nail extends outwardly from the subject's finger.

4. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 3 wherein said ~~holder has a~~
~~recess along a top edge thereof for supporting said pair of nail clippers~~ recess for holding
said pair of nail clippers is located along the top edge of the holder.

1 5. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 3 wherein said light source
2 comprises a bulb with an outer tip and said bulb is ~~held~~ positioned within the holder so
3 that its tip is within at least about one-eighth of an inch from a finger tip portion of the
4 ~~subject's's~~ subject's finger when the subject's finger is located so that the fingernail is
5 between the upper and lower blades.

6. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 5 wherein said tip is aimed
~~outwardly away from~~ below the cutting end of said holder.

7. (Original) The nail clipping assembly of claim 1 wherein said light source is an incandescent bulb.

1 8. (Original) A nail clipping assembly including a pair of nail clippers for
2 clipping a finger or toe nail, said nail clippers having an upper arm and a lower
3 arm, each arm having a blade end and a joined end and said upper and lower arms
4 being joined at their joined ends and said upper arm having an upper blade at its
5 blade end and said lower arm having a lower blade at its blade end, said upper and
6 lower blades being aligned to meet to form a cutting line and an operating lever
7 held to said pair of nail clippers so that the depression of said operating lever
8 causes said upper blade to move downwardly and meet said lower blade to create
9 a cutting action wherein the improvement comprises:

10 a holder having a hand graspable portion, a top portion including a nail
11 clipper holding area, a bottom, a back and a cutting end, said holder supporting a
12 light source at its cutting end and said holder having a pair of fingernail guides
13 extending forwardly with respect to said cutting line and positioned so that a
14 bottom edge of each fingernail guide is horizontally aligned between a lowermost
15 portion of said upper blade and an uppermost portion of the lower blade when said
16 nail clippers are oriented horizontally whereby a subject's fingernail is guided into
17 a space between said upper and lower blades.

1 9. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said fingernail
2 guides are horizontally spaced to expose a majority of the subject's fingernail at a line
3 where the fingernail extends outwardly from the subject's finger when the finger is in a
4 cutting position with the finger located in the space between said upper and lower blades.

10. (Currently amended) The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said nail
clipper holding area is a recess which extends upwardly from a floor to cover
sides of said nail clipper ~~whereby the recess functions as a nail clipping holder.~~

1 11. (Currently amended) An ergonomic handle for ~~comfortably~~ supporting a nail
2 clipper ~~of the type~~ having an upper arm and a lower arm, each arm having a blade
3 end and a joined end and said upper and lower arms being joined at their joined
4 ends and said upper arm having an upper blade at its blade end and said lower arm
5 having a lower blade at its blade end, said upper and lower blades being aligned to
6 meet to form a cutting line and an operating lever held to said pair of nail clippers
7 so that ~~the~~ a depression of said operating lever causes said upper blade to move
8 downwardly and meet said lower blade to create a cutting action, said handle
9 comprising:

10 a hand graspable handle of sufficient girth and length to permit a user's
11 hand to surround the graspable handle so that the user's palm is on a first side of
12 the handle and a users's fingers grasp the opposite side and the user's thumb
13 extends over a top edge of the hand graspable handle; ~~and~~

14 a nail clipper recess formed in said top edge and said nail clipper recess
15 being shaped to surround sides of a pair of nail clippers, and having a bottom
16 upon which a pair of nail clippers can rest and a back end portion to prevent the
17 rearward movement of the pair of nail clippers with respect to said handle and the
18 nail clipper recess having an open front end to permit a user to insert a fingernail
19 in a clipping portion of said pair of nail clippers whereby a pair of nail clippers
20 can be easily supported by a user's hand during a nail clipping operation; and
21 wherein said hand graspable handle has a pair of opposed fingernail guides
22 extending inwardly at said open front end and positioned so that when a pair of
23 nail clippers is inserted in said nail clipper recess the opposed fingernail guides
24 extend beyond a front edge of said pair of nail clippers and a bottom edge of each
25 of said opposed fingernail guides is horizontally aligned between a lowermost
26 portion of said upper blade and an uppermost portion of said lower blade of said
27 pair of nail clippers.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said nail clipper recess has
an upwardly extending tab for passing through a hole in a rear end of said pair of
nail clippers.

14. (Original) The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said hand graspable handle curves upwardly toward its front end.